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**FEB 08 2006**

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**FACSIMILE COVER SHEET**

DATE: FEBRUARY 8, 2006

NUMBER OF PAGES (INCLUDING  
THIS TRANSMITTAL COVER SHEET): 9

OUR REFERENCE: 224367

FROM: JOHN KILYK, JR.  
REGISTRATION NO. 30,763

DIRECT LINE: (312) 616-5665

TO: MAIL STOP Amendment  
UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  
COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313

FACSIMILE NUMBER: (571) 273-8300

IN RE APPLN. OF: Mueller et al.  
APPLICATION NO. 10/660,687  
FILED: September 11, 2003

DOCKET NO.: 00001CON (LVM Reference No. 224367)

**ATTACHED PLEASE FIND THE FOLLOWING DOCUMENTS:**

- FORM PTO-1083 (1 PAGE, IN DUPLICATE)
- REPLY TO OFFICE ACTION (6 PAGES)

A confirmation copy of the transmitted document will:  
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FORM PTO-1083

RECEIVED  
CENTRAL FAX CENTERPATENT  
Attorney Docket No. 00001CON  
LVM Reference No. 224367  
Date: February 8, 2006In re Application of: Mueller et al.  
Application No. 10/660,687  
Filed: September 11, 2003

FEB 08 2006

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Transmitted herewith is a reply to office action in the subject application.

- ☐ Small entity status is claimed for this application under 37 CFR 1.27.
- ☒ Petition for an extension of time for the period noted below, as well as for any additional period necessary to render the present submission timely. Please charge Deposit Account No. 12-1216 for the appropriate petition fee.
- ☐ Other:
- ☒ Please charge Deposit Account No. 12-1216 in the total amount indicated below. A duplicate copy of this transmittal sheet is enclosed herewith.

					SMALL ENTITY		OTHER THAN A SMALL ENTITY	
TIME EXTENSION PETITION FEE			two-month		\$ 0.00		\$450.00	
subtract time extension fee previously paid			none		(\$ 0.00)		(\$ 0.00)	
CLAIM FEE	CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT		HIGHEST NUMBER PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR	EXTRA CLAIMS PRESENT	RATE	ADD'L CLAIM FEE	RATE	ADD'L CLAIM FEE
TOTAL	15	MINUS	20	= 0	x 25 =	\$	x 50 =	\$0.00
INDEPENDENT	1	MINUS	3	= 0	x 100 =	\$	x 200 =	\$0.00
<input type="checkbox"/>	FIRST PRESENTATION OF MULTIPLE CLAIM				+ 180 =	\$	+ 360 =	\$0.00
TOTAL AMOUNT TO BE CHARGED TO DEPOSIT ACCOUNT					TOTAL	\$	TOTAL	\$450.00

- ☒ The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiencies in the following fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 12-1216.
- ☒ Any filing fees under 37 CFR 1.16 for the presentation of extra claims.
- ☒ Any patent application processing fees under 37 CFR 1.17.

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Respectfully submitted,

LEYDIG, VOIT &amp; MAYER, LTD.

By

John Kilyk, Jr., Reg. No. 30,763

Amendment or ROA Transmittal (Revised 5/9/05)

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

RECEIVED  
CENTRAL FAX CENTER  
FEB 08 2006

Patent Application No. 10/660,687

Applicant: Mueller et al.

Filed: September 11, 2003

TC/AU: 2822

Examiner: Guerrero

Docket No.: 00001CON (LVM Reference No. 224367)

Customer No.: 29050

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

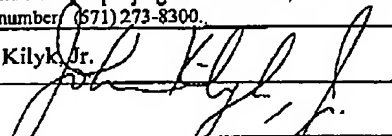
## REPLY TO OFFICE ACTION

Sir:

In reply to the Office Action dated September 20, 2005, please enter the following amendments and consider the following remarks.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 4 of this paper.

MAILING/TRANSMISSION CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8 OR 1.10			
I hereby certify that this document and all accompanying documents are, on the date indicated below, <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office at fax number (571) 273-8300.			
Name (Print/Type)	John Kilyk, Jr.		
Signature		Date	February 8, 2006